

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00145 281048Z

46

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 XMB-07 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 DRC-01 /054 W

----- 108675

R 280920Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8159

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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BEIRUT FOR RCAA

DEPT PASS EXIM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, ETRD, CY

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CYPRUS AIRWAYS PURCHASE PLANS

1. CYPRUS AIRWAYS (CY) BOARD CHAIRMAN (COMMERCE
MINISTRY DIRGEN ELIADES) TOLD EMBOFF IN CONFIDENCE JAN 25
THAT CY HAS DECIDED TO PURCHASE LOCKHEED TRISTAY.
HOWEVER, CY WILL NOT PLACE ORDER UNTIL AIRLINE'S 1974
PROSPECTS CLEARER--DELAY OF SEVERAL MONTHS OR MORE.

2. ELIADES SAID THAT CY WILL SHOW ITS FIRST LOSS IN 1974
AS RESULT OF INCREASED FUEL COSTS AND PROJECTED 13 PERCENT
DROP IN PASSENGER TRAFFIC, BOTH AS THE RESULT OF WORLD OIL
CRISIS AND BRITISH AND EUROPEAN RECESSION. HE DID NOT
RPT NOT CONSIDER THIS OPPORTUNE TIME FOR CY TO ASK GOCYPRUS
FOR HUGE LOAN GUARANTEE.

3. ELIADES SAID OIL CRISIS AND PROSPECTS FOR DECLINING TOURIST
TRAFFIC MEAN THAT CY EQUIPMENT COMPATIBILITY WITH BRITISH
AIRWAYS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER. THUS, WHILE HE WOULD
LIKE TO SEE CY BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT BY OPERATING
DOUGLAS EQUIPMENT, HE THINKS IT WISER TO MAINTAIN PRESENT
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 00145 281048Z

RELATIONSHIP WITH BRITISH AIRWAYS.

4. COMMENT: DECISION TO STAY COMPATIBLE WITH BA NOT
RPT NOT SURPRISING, BUT WE EXPECT PURCHASE ORDER TO REMAIN
ON CY SHELF FOR A WHILE.
GRANT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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